

2. In paragraph 1 of the official communication, the Examiner has objected to the abstract of the disclosure. The abstract has been amended to address this ground of objection.
3. In paragraph 2 of the official communication, the Examiner has objected to the drawings. The drawings have been corrected to address this ground of objection.
4. In paragraph 3 of the official communication, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 23, 26, 30 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Tran et al.
5. Claims 23 and 26 are both dependent on claim 1. It follows that the following paragraphs that address the rejection of claim 1 are to be understood to extend to claims 23 and 26 as well.
6. The Examiner has stated that Tran et al discloses all of the claimed features of the invention including “*– a support for a plurality of inkjet printhead segments (Fig 9), said support including: a hollow elongate member (hollow structure of 10, Fig 9) having at least one ink supply channel (gaps between 62 and 28) formed therein, the or each, ink supply channel being in fluid communication with an elongate slot (recess of 10, Fig 9) in and extending at least partly along the elongate member (Fig 9);...*
7. It is respectfully submitted that Tran et al does not disclose a support for a plurality of inkjet printhead segments. Clearly, with reference to the wording of the disclosure, Figure 9 is “*a partial schematic cross sectional schematic view taken along line B-B of FIG 1 showing portion of the print cartridge in the proximity to the TAB head assembly.*” It is respectfully submitted that a plurality of inkjet printhead segments are not described anywhere in the disclosure of Tran et al. The reason for this is that Tran et al discloses an application to an inkjet print cartridge that traverses the print medium in use. In this regard, please see lines 60 to 62, column 1 of Tran et al.

8. The present invention requires the accommodation of a plurality of printheads so that the printhead can span the print medium. The Examiner's attention is respectfully drawn to the first paragraph after "Summary of the Invention" in the present application. The cartridge of Tran et al does not require a plurality of printheads since it traverses the print medium.
9. The Examiner has stated that Tran et al discloses: "*- a plurality of printhead segment carriers (structures containing 28, 58, 58a) received and secured in neighbouring arrangement within the slot (28, 58, 58a within slot, Fig. 5), each printhead segment carrier being adapted for mounting thereto of at least one printhead segment (70,32),...*"
10. In Tran et al the structure 28 is "*a silicon substrate ... containing a plurality of individually energizable thin film resistors.*" (column 5, lines 46 to 48). The structures 58, 58a are adhesive support surfaces to which a flexible circuit (18) is adhered (column 6, lines 32 to 37). Further, the components 70, 32 of Tran et al are, respectively, a "*thin film resistor*" (column 6, line 62) and "*ink vaporization chambers 32*" (column 6, line 1). It is therefore respectfully submitted that the structures containing the silicon substrate and the adhesive support surfaces of Tran et al cannot be considered as equivalent to a carrier for a printhead segment.
11. The above paragraph is supported by the fact that the thin film resistor and the ink vaporization chambers cannot be regarded as printhead segments. The printhead segments of the present application are clearly described in the present application as printhead chips that incorporate micro electromechanical systems. It follows that the printhead segment carriers are constrained to permit a printhead chip of the type described in the present application to be mounted thereto. It is respectfully submitted that there is nothing about the characteristics of the structures containing the silicon substrate and the adhesive support surfaces to suggest that they may be suitable for having printhead chips mounted thereto.

12. The remaining subparagraphs of the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C 102 are all based on the paragraphs dealt with above.
13. In view of the above, the Applicant respectfully submits Tran et al does not anticipate claim 1, 23 and 26 of the present application.
14. Claim 30 is simply an amplification of claim 1. Thus, the above paragraphs are apposite in respect of the Examiner's rejection of claim 30. Claim 48 is dependent on claim 30. It follows that Applicant respectfully submits that Tran et al does not anticipate claims 30 and 48.
15. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are courteously solicited.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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An inkjet printhead assembly (1) includes a hollow elongate member (10) having at least one ink supply channel (14) (20a) formed therein, the, or each ink supply channel (14) (20a) being in fluid communication with an elongate slot (21) in and extending at least partly along the elongate member (10). A plurality of printhead segment carriers (8) is received and secured in neighbouring arrangement within the slot (21), and at least one printhead segment (4) is mounted to each printhead segment carrier (8). Each printhead segment carrier (8) includes at least one ink gallery (92) arranged so as to connect the or an associated one of said ink supply channels (14) (20a) with an ink inlet (41) of the at least one printhead segment (4) mounted to that printhead segment carrier (8). The inkjet printhead segments (4) are both conveniently supported in the elongate member (10) and supplied with ink, and their printing ranges may overlap longitudinally.